

County of Los Angeles CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

713 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION • LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012 (213) 974-1101 http://cao.co.la.ca.us

February 23, 2006

Board of Supervisors GLORIA MOLINA First District

YVONNE B. BURKE Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY Third District

DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

Fifth District

To:

Mayor Michael D. Antonovich

Supervisor Gloria Molina Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky Supervisor Don Knabe

From:

David E. Janssen

Chief Administrative Officer

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE AND HOSPITAL LIABILITY CLAIMS ADMINISTRATION

On December 20, 2005, on a motion by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, your Board instructed the Chief Administrative Office (CAO) to issue a report within 60 days on the feasibility of assigning responsibility for the adjusting of the County of Los Angeles (County) tort liability medical malpractice and hospital liability claims (medical malpractice) to the CAO, effective January 1, 2007.

The CAO has been analyzing the feasibility of assuming the County's tort liability claim adjusting functions, including the medical malpractice. Due to the magnitude of assuming such a function, and the need to mutually work with all affected County departments, additional time is required to complete a thorough analysis of centralizing the County's tort liability claim adjusting functions. The analysis will address issues such as the potential impact on the operations of the CAO and various County departments, as well as consideration, if appropriate, of a systematic and methodical process of transferring any tort liability claim adjusting function to the CAO.

On December 20, 2005, your Board also instructed the CAO to provide quarterly reports on the development and issuance of a medical malpractice and hospital liability and legal defense management services Request for Proposals (RFP) until the CAO's recommendations are presented. Concurrent with the medical malpractice RFP process, the CAO will continue to analyze the feasibility of assuming the tort liability claim adjusting function. Accordingly, the CAO will also provide your Board with an analysis of centralizing any tort liability claim adjusting function, including medical malpractice, in future quarterly reports.

If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Rocky A. Armfield, County Risk Manager, at (213) 351-5346.

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c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors County Counsel